

SECRET
Security Information

LS-1788

4 September 1952

OGC Has Reviewed

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Administration)

SUBJECT: 25X1A [REDACTED] - Travel Authorization

1. A memorandum of 6 August 1952 from Chief, FE to Chief, Finance Division requests special travel authorization for the wife of Staff Agent [REDACTED] to cover round-trip expenses from [REDACTED] in connection with required hospitalization of the wife. Cover is a small commercial enterprise with Staff Agent [REDACTED] acting as an employee thereof. As previously indicated, [REDACTED] has all the rights and benefits of a staff employee and nothing more, except for what may accrue to him for operational reasons. Normally, such transportation would not constitute a proper charge against [REDACTED] and any payment would be in the nature of an advance to [REDACTED] or an unauthorized expenditure by [REDACTED] in the absence of proper special authority.

2. The initial justification was predicated on the principle that it was normal commercial practice and necessary to the cover of [REDACTED]. At the time of initial submission, we stated no objection if it was such a practice of the trade that an exception thereto would cause comment and doubt. In any event, substantiation of the justification was recommended.

3. The present memorandum predicates the request for relief on the principle that the withdrawal of [REDACTED] from operational activity as a result of his wife's illness would have endangered the operation concerned to the extent of cancellation or suspension of the project. For this reason Chief, FE requests that the case be considered "special" because of the direct relation of the disability to the operation.

4. Paragraph 1 of our memorandum of 24 July 1952, attached hereto, adequately covers the law on allowable transportation expenses. In connection with allowances of expenses incident to disability, there are some instances where relief has been granted because the disability is a direct result of and is inseparably related to operational circumstances. The present request is novel in that continuance of the operation is stated to be inseparably related to and dependent upon relief of the disability. On this basis we will raise no legal objection to approval of the payment by DD/A under [REDACTED] but it should be clearly recognized that this is not in theory a payment of travel expenses but is an expenditure necessary to the support and continuance of operations and is a type which must be clearly justified in each case.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

ATTACHMENT